

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 SES-02 SAA-01 SSM-03 HA-05 IO-13
/110 W

-----122628 271304Z /43

R 271156Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1689
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD POUCH
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT POUCH
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4726

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, YS, KU
SUBJECT: GOK RELATIONS WITH PDRY

REF: KUWAIT 4328 (NOTAL)

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1. WHILE MEETING AUGUST 26 WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER-
SECRETARY RASHID AL-RASHID ON ANOTHER SUBJECT (SEPTTEL), I
COMMENTED ON THE RECENT ARAB LEAGUE ACTION FREEZING RELA-
TIONS WITH PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN (PDRY),
NOTING, HOWEVER, THAT VISITS BY PDRY MINISTERS TO KUWAIT
SUGGESTED THIS WAS NOT ENTIRELY THE CASE HERE.

2. THE UNDERSECRETARY SAID THAT THE GOK HAD SUPPORTED THE ARAB LEAGUE ACTION WHICH, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN TO MEAN THAT SOUTH YEMEN WAS "TO BE REMOVED FROM THE MAP." THE KUWAITI POLICY RATHER WAS DESIGNED TO LEAD BACK AN ERRANT ARAB BROTHER TO THE FOLD. RASHID AL-RASHID ADMITTED THAT THE UNFORTUNATE EVENTS IN YEMEN DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS HAD CAUSED THE SITUATION TO TAKE AN UNFAVORABLE TURN. HE SAID THAT THE GMC WAS NO LONGER PROVIDING THE ADEN REFINERY WITH CRUDE OIL AND STATED THAT KUWAIT'S GENERAL BOARD FOR ASSISTANCE OF THE YEMENS AND THE GULF STATES HAD STOPPED ANY AID TO THE PDRY EVEN BEFORE THE ARAB LEAGUE DECISION.

3. AS FOR THE RECENT VISITS OF THE SOUTH YEMENI MINISTERS OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY, HE OBSERVED THAT ARAB PROTOCOL WAS SOMEWHAT LESS RIGID THAN THAT PRACTICED IN THE WEST. SINCE THERE WAS A DIRECT FLIGHT FROM ADEN TO KUWAIT, OFTEN THE FIRST THE FOREIGN MINISTRY KNEW ABOUT A MINISTER'S VISIT WAS WHEN HE ARRIVED AT THE AIRPORT. REGRETTABLY, THIS HAPPENED WITH OTHER ARAB DIGNITARIES AS WELL. ONCE HERE, THE GOK COULD HARDLY REFUSE TO TALK TO THEM, ALTHOUGH AL-RASHID NOTED THAT THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER/FOREIGN MINISTER HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND TIME TO MEET WITH THE MINISTER OF FINANCE. THIS DISCUSSION WAS CONCLUDED BY OUR GENERALLY DEPLORING THE EVENTS WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE IN PDRY AND EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT RENEWED CONFLICTS WITH NORTH YEMEN AND OMAN WOULD NOT OCCUR.

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MAESTRONE

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